

Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) is the largest socialist organization in the United States. We believe that the economy and society should be run democratically to meet the needs of the many, not the few.



The Quad-City Worker



A better world is possible. Join us!

How to Get Involved:

- 1. Become a DSA member at dsausa.org/join
- 2. Come to our actions and meetings
- 3. Submit your work at quadcitiesdsa.org/worker-submission

Disclaimer: The views in this publication are not necessarily representative of QCDSA's democratically-decided positions (except where noted), but represent the diversity of thought of our membership.

A quarterly publication of the Quad Cities Democratic Socialists of America

Mother Jones

Oscar Langford

This poem appeared in Miner's Magazine on May 15, 1913.

They've put an injunction on old Mother Jones
The language so stung
From the brave woman's tongue,
And her truth-telling words were so noisy in tones
They've tried the suppression of old Mother Jones

The Court has imprisoned old Mother Jones.
She raised such rage
About starvation wage,
The coal baron's greed and the coal miner's groans.
That they tried to get rid of old Mother Jones

To thus make a martyr of old Mother Jones
Will encourage the strife
And will quicken the life
Of the struggling workers fighting the drones
Who put an injunction on old Mother Jones.

Do they think an injunction will gag Mother Jones?
It will certainly fail--
Though they've put her in jail
Or keep her surrounded by prison wall stones,
There are thousands to speak for old Mother Jones

For the words and the works of old Mother Jones
For downtrodden men
Will be eulogized then
The earth has enshrouded the weary old bones
And a monument built for old Mother Jones.

Then the wonderful spirit of old Mother Jones
May march up and down
Like the soul of John Brown,
Till justice shall vanquish our burdens and groans,
And oppression is buried like old Mother Jones.



Thistle

Rita Briar

i will give you pause, weed-puller
wear your gloves if you come at me
or you'll get pain,
annoyance, it's not your day
So you wait a day, wait a week
slow down just enough
and I will bloom



The Quad-City Worker Launches Video Platform

QCDSA Communications and Political Education Committee

The Quad-City Worker is launching a brand new video platform, starting with a YouTube channel you can find at youtube.com/@qcworker.

This platform will be a new place for members to share a socialist perspective on the problems and opportunities that face the working class in our community.

We hope you will help us by submitting videos that describe relevant local news, explainers of our government's injustices, updates on the work the QCDSA is doing, and other things you hope will inform and mobilize.

YouTube Channel:

***Submit your video
or essay here:***



TRANS SANCTUARY DAVENPORT

WHAT WE WANT

We want Davenport city council to pass a sanctuary ordinance protecting gender-affirming and reproductive healthcare: no government has the right to tell people what to do with their own bodies.

HOW WE'LL GET THERE

We're going to organize everyday working people and aligned groups in a coalition to fight for it. We need a mass movement against the far-right and for our democratic rights!



**SIGN UP TO HELP @
QUADCITIESDSA.ORG/TRANS**



No compromise with Slavery: Eugene Debs on May Day in 1902

It is indeed with great pleasure that I am before you here today. May Day sets my whole being afire, and upon its every recurrence, I consecrate again my life to the revolution which it holds in its meaning. It is with this spirit of revolution, new born, that I will say what I have to say.

The days of the reformer have gone, and those who would change our conditions today must be made of sterner stuff. In determining the liberty or the freedom of the slave, there is no room for reform, no room for compromise. If one man is to be denied the power to live off the labor of others, then slavery must be abolished. Its rigors cannot be mitigated by lessening the number of lashes or reducing the amount of the robbery. Robbery and lashes are not the lot of free men, and if we would be free men, we must put an end to both.

In the life of Wendell Phillips, the great emancipator of the black slave, there occurred an incident which showed the true worth of the man who seeks to compromise, who seeks to go step at a time. In the church in the city of Boston of which he was pastor, there was inscribed over the entranceway the words, "God bless this Commonwealth." Wendell Phillips had seen these words since his boyhood, and they had sunk deep into his brain. At one time during the worst days of Southern slavery, a little black girl who had run away from her masters in the South took refuge in this church, and at once there arose a question, what was to be done with her?

Some wanted to send her back, others wanted to deliver her to the officers, and still others declared that while they favored sending her back to the master whose property she was, they insisted that it should be done under condition that she should never again be mistreated.

After all others had given their views, Wendell Phillips arose and, in a voice without a falter, declared:
For many years have I entered this church, and every time I have seen that inscription over the doorway, but let me say that if in this place there is to be made a compromise with slavery, if we here do aught that will sanction ownership of flesh and blood, I will insist that that inscription be changed and instead of writing "God bless our Commonwealth," let us write it "God damn our Commonwealth."

Wendell Phillips is gone, and the slavery against which he fought has disappeared; no longer is human flesh and blood sold in the open market. But yet slavery still exists. . . .

Upcoming events

Event	Description	Date & Location
Radical Readings- The Communist Manifesto	Join QCDSA to discuss Karl Marx and Friedrich Engel's famous <i>Manifesto of the Communist Party</i>	Sunday May 31 st , 2 PM, The Brewed Book in Davenport
Trans Sanctuary Davenport Organizer Training	Join our Organizer Training for our Trans Sanctuary Davenport campaign. You'll learn skills on how to get people involved and how to grow a campaign into a mass movement.	Tuesday June 2 nd , 7 PM, Zoom
Chapter Meeting	Join us at our monthly meeting of the Quad Cities chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America!	Saturday June 27 th , 2 PM, Davenport Library Main Branch and Zoom

There was no compromise with slavery in the '60s, and there will be none today. As the ownership of the man was at the root of chattel slavery, and as it was abolished only with the abolition of that ownership, so today the ownership of the machine is at the root of wage-slavery, and wage-slavery will come to an end only with the abolition of the ownership of the machine. Society itself must control the machine. Socialism is the only hope of the wage-slave.

Compromisers never destroyed chattel slavery, neither will they destroy wage-slavery, and those who advocate a step at a time in securing the emancipation of the working class would do well to remember the words of Wendell Phillips.

Through socialism alone will this be accomplished, and it is the duty of every workingman to align himself with the Socialist Party. Do not be discouraged if you are the only socialist in your precinct, you are a monument to the degeneracy of your neighbors. Join hands, fellow workers, join hands with your brothers of other lands, and when at last the glorious day comes, when there is no longer a master, no longer a slave, it will be your reward to know and feel the part you have played in its accomplishment. No grander reward could fall to any man.

